GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5460
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2002
DISTRIBUTION OF FOODGRAINS UNDER ANNAPURNA SCHEME
A. VENKATESH NAIK;RAMSHETH THAKUR

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have fixed the responsibility for distribution of foodgrains under the scheme on village Panchayats;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any guidelines have been issued in this regard and the powers given to the Panchayats.

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether there is any mechanism to check the irregularities committed by the distributors; and

(f) if so, the details thereof.

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA)

(a) to (f): The Annapurna Scheme has been transferred to the State Plan with effect from the financial year, 2002-03.As per the guidelines issued to the State Governments and the Union Territory Administrations, in year 2000-01, the Gram Panchayats were responsible for distribution of the Entitlement Cards to the beneficiaries selected in the Gram Sabha Meetings. District Collector/Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Panchayat was responsible for ensuring the availability of foodgrains at the District level and for distributionof the foodgrains through the network of Fair Price shops under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TDPS). A State Level Committee headed by Secretary, Food and Civil Supplies Department and a District Level Committee headed by District Collector had been visualised in the guidelines to monitor and evaluate the implementation of the Scheme.